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Michigan Law Creates New Agricultural Renaissance Zones

Bill sponsored by Sen. Van Woerkom will provide new opportunities to farmers

LANSING – Legislation doubling the number of Agricultural Renaissance Zones in Michigan was signed into law today, bill sponsor Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores, said.

“The success of our agricultural community is critical to West Michigan families,” Van Woerkom said. “Expanding opportunities for family farmers and agricultural businesses by doubling tax-free Agricultural Renaissance Zones will ensure that the agriculture industry remains strong and successful in our state.”

Senate Bill 163 amends Public Act 376 of 1996 to create ten additional Agricultural Renaissance Zones in Michigan. The zones exempt qualified agriculture processors who are expanding or creating a business from all state and local taxes for up to fifteen years.

Michigan was the first state to initiate tax-free Renaissance Zones to help increase job opportunities and investments. In 2002, Agricultural Renaissance Zones were created to keep raw commodities in the state and improve profitability for Michigan farmers.

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